

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 01112 231710Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SCCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-05 OPR-02

PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 COME-00

EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 FBO-02 SCS-03 ACDA-05 /098 W

----- 083191

P R 231614Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6447

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VALLETTA 1112

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MT

SUBJECT: NATIONALIST INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS DISRUPTED BY
VIOLENCE

REF: VALLETTA 0639, 0660

1. AS HAS BEEN CUSTOMARY FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS, THE OPPOSITION NATIONALIST PARTY HELD A PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION IN VALLETTA ON SEPTEMBER 21 TO MARK THE ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF MALTESE INDEPENDENCE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM. SINCE PRIME MINISTER MINTOFF AND THE LABOR PARTY CAME TO POWER IN 1971, THIS DATE HAS NOT BEEN RECOGNIZED AS AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY BY HIS GOVERNMENT, AND THE ANNUAL NATIONALIST OBSERVANCE HAS BECOME A STRONGLY-DIVISIVE POLITICAL ISSUE BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES, LEADING TO CONSIDERABLE DISCORD AND VIOLENCE. THIS YEAR WAS NO EXCEPTION TO THE PATTERN.

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2. BECAUSE OF THE PAST HISTORY OF CLASHES ON SEPTEMBER 21,

NATIONALIST LEADERS SOUGHT, AND OBTAINED, WHAT APPEARED TO BE
ADEQUATE ADVBJNDBRANCES FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
THAT SUFFICIENT MEASURES WOULD BE TAKEN TO PREVENT ANY
VIOLENCE THIS YEAR. FURTHERMORE, IT WAS GENERALLY UNDER-
STOOD THAT THE WORD HAD BEEN PASSED BY LABOR LEADERS TO
THEIR SUPPORTERS TO AVOID INCITING TROUBLE. THIS SUPPOSED
UNDERSTANDING WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREEMENT REACHED
LAS/R?"- W_0!4_JW.)QGW(
EWB\$6;GDJH8F/@B
(R-F
EW6:PD>A0QTBE2;S
FDC @(4#<Z0YCT*0\$@)DKT AGQ.D 0C-QFPTQ&_FXF9AW0_KL-WA#;W:
\$_P
5Q.D@*<4FW<7J(,_)QAQ_H*/-_F
@0;@
P)FU0!0Z4WF:6
W>5CKF_)QTXVH_QQ1FUP)*(IF!XFI@G_HJW *#H9;
T;@U"7H
U\$ 2 !+GD@Y;@
P);W!M-

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS, POLITICAL SITUATION
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Draft Date: 23 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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06 JUL 2006

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